Reply.—This is being attended to even now. The provertikars whose work has been considerably lightened by the abolition of payment in kind and the reduction in the number of kist instalments will be asked to look after the planting of avenue trees also.

195. Desirability of removing the restrictions on elephant shooting.

Mr. H. D. Deane on behalf of Mr. H. M. Knight (Cardamom Planters' Association) said that elephants had of late become too numerous in the Cardamom Hills and the High Ranges, especially on the Periyar-Kumili road and near Mundakayam, and were causing several deaths and considerable damage to property. The member said he was not speaking from a sportsman's standpoint when he urged that the present restriction on the shooting of elephants might be removed in the interests of the people living in those tracts.

Reply.—Elephants are useful animals and valuable assets to the State. As such, their indiscriminate destruction cannot be permitted. Sometimes, even rewards are offered by Government for the shooting of rogue elephants. In regard to the localities specified, the attention of the Conservator will be drawn.

196. Geological and mineralogical survey of the State.

Mr. S. Krishna Iyer, B.A., B.L., (T. I. C., Alleppey) said that it was highly necessary to organize a department for the geological and mineralogical survey of the State as early as practicable.

Reply.—This matter has been engaging the attention of Government. Two students who had been sent out for training in the Royal College of Science, London, have come back successful and are now receiving practical instruction in the Government of India Geological Department. When they return the subject will be taken in hand.

197. Protracted delay on the part of local officers in questions regarding the acquisition of lands by European bishops and clergymen in their names for the use of diocesan institutions.

This subject which stood in the name of *Mr. G. H. Gunther, (Catholic Indian Association, Trivandrum)* was withdrawn by him.

198. Recognition of promissory notes for paddy or cocoanuts as valid documents.

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